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AGENDA ITEM: Funding Mechanisms

BACKGROUND: The Regional Council has a choice in selecting the funding mechanism for

Regional Strategies. Options include Grant Agreement or RFGA for the Oral

Health Strategy.

A concern was raised at the last meeting regarding the only option of RFGA funding mechanism. The Regional Director directed the Council in only one option; this was inaccurate – the Council has the option to select as the

funding mechanism either a RFGA or Government to Government Agreement.

RECOMMENDATION: The Regional Director presents this as information for Council deliberation and

vote.



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### **Background:**

The Oral Health Strategy was introduced to the Council as a new strategy for SFY2011 in the funding plan strategic direction in late 2009.

On October 29, 2009 the Regional Council voted on the Oral Health Strategy (excerpt from the approved minutes):

 Strategy Nine: Member Harik moved that Cochise Regional Partnership Council approve the new strategy for oral health with an allocation of \$200,000. Member Howe seconded the motion. After discussing the unique target of children birth through five and pregnant mothers, roll call by vote was taken.

Member Cabarga	Yes	Member Humburg	Yes
Member Harik	Yes	Member Polach	Yes
Member Houser	Yes	Chair Strain	Yes
Member Howe	Yes	Member Whitmer	Yes

Motion carried 8:0

On January 21, 2010 the Regional Council voted on the Funding Mechanism (excerpt from the approved minutes):

### **Funding Mechanisms for SFY 2011**

Annette Garcia, Grants and Contracts Specialist, First Things First, discussed and explained a handout that was provided to the Regional Council with options and recommendations regarding grants for strategies One, Five, Six and Nine. Strategy One has new components included in the strategy so in order to have consistency in implemented programs RFGA is recommended. Strategy Five also has new components and a RFGA is also recommended to allow the grantee to stay true to the intent of the Regional Council's scope. The Strategy Six grantee (Easter Seals Blake Foundation) was signed in November 2009, and the recommendation is for renewal, to allow the grantee to implement the strategy. Strategy Nine is a new strategy and the recommendation is to release a RFGA with scope of work and intent of the council, including the components the Regional Council would like to see in the program. The grant amounts are not doubled and cannot be renewed with an addendum to add or change services.

Member Howe moved that the Cochise Regional Partnership Council approve the RFGA as the funding mechanism for Strategy Nine Oral Health Education. Member Welker seconded the motion. Member Ryan declared a conflict of interest. The Regional Council discussed the need for a competitive process. Motion passed 9:1

On June 3, 2010 the Council made the decision to accept the review team recommendations on the Oral Health RFGA Grant – no award was made.



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On August 19, 2010 the Regional Council voted on the Funding Mechanism (excerpt from the approved minutes):

### **Discussion of 2011 Funding Mechanisms**

Melissa Avant provided the Regional Council with a hand out and discussed funding mechanisms for the Oral Health and Health and Nutrition Strategies. Member Bae and Member Ryan declared conflict of interest and recued themselves from discussion. Ms. Avant provided the following options:

- a) Re-release Request for Grant Application
- b) Government to Government agreement
- Pursuant to Statue 412703 Wavier of Solicitation and Award Procedures Wavier of Competition from ADOA

The Regional Council discussed the scope of work for the Health and Nutrition strategy and considered a modification of components. Oral Health education can be moved to the Oral Health Strategy. Rather than cooking demonstrations, tasting demonstrations could be provided with recipe cards and information on healthy habits and foods. The Regional discussed following a targeted population to observe the impact of First Things First services.

# **Discussion and Possible Approval of Funding Mechanisms**

Member Humburg moved that the Cochise Regional Partnership Council approve Oral health as a government to government agreement, in the amount of \$200,000, for State Fiscal Year 2011. Member Dailey seconded the motion.

Motion passed 6:0

On September 16, 2010 the Regional Council voted to award the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension the Oral Health Grant (excerpt from the approved minutes):

## **Discussion and Possible Approval of SFY 2011 Agreements**

Member Bae declared a conflict of interest and recued herself.

Ms. Avant discussed meetings held with the Cochise County Health Department and the University of Arizona for a government to government for Oral Health. The University of Arizona agreed to the scope of work outlined by the First Things First Cochise Regional Partnership Council. The University of Arizona proposed the First Smiles Program. Through the agreement the University of Arizona proposed a subcontract with the Cochise County Health Department for services and outreach. General Dental and Chiricahua Community Health Clinics will be referral sites for children needing more than low tech interventions. The Regional Council discussed the need for specific information in the agreement concerning numbers of children referred, varnishes and education, the need for quantitative and qualitative data and exit surveys.

Member Strain moved that the Cochise Regional Partnership Council approve oral health as a government to government agreement with the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension, in the amount of \$190,000 removing the subcontract with the Cochise County Health Department for State Fiscal Year 2011, with the understanding the University of Arizona will track outcomes and that the evaluative portion is detailed and demonstrates the outcomes intended by the Cochise Regional Partnership Council. Member Dailey seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6:0

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# **Current Contract:**

The current contract is ending on June 30, 2013.

# **Council Choice:**

- 1. RFGA: this stands for Request for Grant Application. It is a formal competitive announcement of an opportunity to apply for funding. The RFGA through the Scope of work specifies the requirements for applying for the grant.
- 2. Government to Government Agreement: A grant agreement, also referred to as a government to government agreement, is a non competitive process required when a state governmental unit (i.e. Board and Regional Partnership Councils) entered into a contract with a local unit of government, such as; a city, town, tribe, university, college, or school district.